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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Application of	:	
Bruce Blazar, et al.	:	
Application No. 10/827,023	:	DECISION ON PETITION
Filed: April 19, 2004	:	UNDER 37 CFR 1.78(a)(6)
Attorney Docket No. 22253-76278	:	

This is a decision on the petition, filed March 17, 2005, which is being treated under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(6) to accept an unintentionally delayed claim under 35 U.S.C. §119(e) for the benefit of prior-filed provisional application No. 60/463,591.

The petition is **DISMISSED**.

A petition under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(6) is only applicable to those applications filed on or after November 29, 2000. Further, the petition is appropriate only after expiration of the period specified in 37 CFR 1.78(a)(5)(ii) and must be filed during the pendency of the nonprovisional application. In addition, the petition must be accompanied by:

- (1) the reference required by 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) and 37 CFR 1.78(a)(5)(i) to the prior-filed application, unless previously submitted;
- (2) the surcharge set forth in § 1.17(t); and
- (3) a statement that the entire delay between the date the claim was due under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(5)(ii) and the date the claim was filed was unintentional. The Commissioner may require additional information where there is a question whether the delay was unintentional.

The petition does not comply with item (1) above. The statement contained in the petition is unacceptable as an "amendment" and, therefore, is not considered a proper reference under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(2)(i). Note that 37 CFR 1.121 states that amendments are made by filing a paper, in compliance with § 1.52, directing that specified amendments be made. The pertinent section of 37 CFR 1.52 states that the claim (in this case, the claim for priority), must commence on a

separate physical sheet. 37 CFR 1.4(c) states that each distinct subject must be contained in a separate paper since different matters may be considered by different branches of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

In view of the above, an amendment in compliance with the aforementioned rules, along with a renewed petition under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(6), must be submitted.

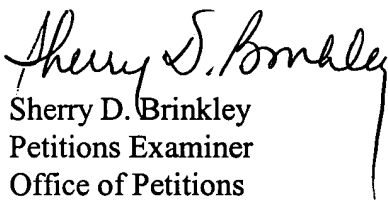
Further correspondence with respect to this matter should be addressed as follows:


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The centralized facsimile number is (571) 273-8300.

Any questions concerning this matter may be directed to Sherry D. Brinkley at (571) 272-3204.


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